



To: [REDACTED]
From: Joe Pounder, President, America Rising Corp.
Date: May 22, 2017
Subject: Media Monitoring Services In 2017-2018

Project Scope:

Provide comprehensive media monitoring of news about Administrator Scott Pruitt and specifically about the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Media Monitoring:

Definers Public Affairs can provide comprehensive war room-style media monitoring focused on stories about Administrator Pruitt and the Environmental Protection Agency. This monitoring would include print and online sources, national and local TV, and social media. Stories would be compiled into a **daily matrix** about Administrator Pruitt (example below). While not alerting stories throughout the day with a campaign-level intensity, Definers **will alert major stories as they develop**. Examples of a **Print Alert** and **TV Alert** are below.

The monitoring will focus on stories about Administrator Pruitt and the EPA and not stories about environmental policy in general. The ultimate goal of the monitoring is to provide your team with a greater understanding of the Administrator's and Agency's coverage throughout the day.

In the next three months, Definers will be rolling out for its monitoring clients a new Console that will make all news clips alerted available via login in addition to email notifications. The Console has a powerful search function that will allow users to easily find the clips they need for ongoing projects.

Timeline:

Definers can begin providing immediate support upon execution of an agreement.

Budget:

To accomplish this level of monitoring support, Definers proposes a retainer of **\$10,000 per month** for a term of one-year.

Sample Matrix/Compendium

EPA Clips

May 22, 2017

Print

Brian Dabbs, "EPA Experts Increasingly Shut Out Of Public Statements, Some Complain", Bloomberg, 5/22/17

Joe Wertz, "With Pruitt Leading EPA, Oklahoma Oil Firm Gains Ground In Fight Against Regulation", Stateimpact OK, 5/22/17

Staff, "EPA Workers Plan Rally To Protest Proposed Budget Cuts", Associated Press, 5/21/17

Rafi Letzter And Madeleine Sheehan Perkins, "Scott Pruitt's First 100 Days At The EPA Have Shown He's Unlike Any Former Chief", Business Insider, 5/21/17

Tom Mclaughlin, "EPA Announces Funding Available For Panhandle Estuary Program", Northwest Florida Daily News, 5/21/17

Lauren Cross, "Judge Denies Superfund Residents Court Intervention In EPA Cleanup", NWI Times Indiana, 5/21/17

Staff, "Polluters Are Expecting Big Savings From Scott Pruitt's EPA", Daily Kos, 5/21/17

Miranda Green And Rene Marsh, "President's Fiscal 2018 Budget Would Slash EPA Spending By 30%", CNN, 5/20/17

Hiroko Tbuchu And Eric Lipton, "How Rollbacks At Scott Pruitt's E.P.A. Are A Boon To Oil And Gas", New York Times, 5/20/17

Rick Keigwin, "EPA Collaborates With Growers On Risks", Iowa Farmer Today, 5/20/17

Adam Wernick, "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt Is Not Making Anyone Happy Right Now", PRI, 5/20/17

Timothy Gardner, "White House Moving Ahead With Stiff EPA Budget Cuts: Group, Citing Document", Reuters, 5/19/17

Brady Dennis, "EPA To Set Aside \$12 Million For Buyouts In Coming Months", Washington Post,

5/19/17

Jennifer Ludden, "Public To EPA On Cutting Regulations: 'No!'", NPR, 5/19/17

Jason O. Boyd, "Congressman Jones Calls For Removal Of EPA Regulation Impacting Aurora Mine", WCTI Washington, 5/19/17

Caitlyn Stuplin, "EPA Preparing Cleanup Plan For West Deptford Superfund Site", NJ Advance Media, 5/19/17

Staff, "EPA Partners With Quapaw Tribe Of Oklahoma To Continue Cleanup At Tar Creek Superfund Site; Epa Awards Over \$4 Million To Tribe", Galena Sentinel Times, 5/19/17

Chris White, "EPA Official Invites Left-Wing Environmental Group To Agency For Talk On Science", Daily Signal, 5/19/17

Marianne Lavelle And Georgina Gustin, "Trump Budget Would Wallop EPA's Climate And Environment Programs", Inside Climate News, 5/20/17

Emily Atlin, "Scott Pruitt Is The Hypocritical Liar That Trump Deserves", New Republic, 5/19/17

Andrew Freedman, "EPA Leader To Get More Bodyguards While Cutting Other Agency Staff", Mashable, 5/19/17

Staff, "EPA Chairman Scott Pruitt On Potential Ramifications Of Pulling Out Of The Paris Climate Agreement: We Are The United States, We Don't Lose Our Seat At The Table", Fox News Radio, 5/19/17

TV/Radio

5/22/17 NPR: Discussion On The EPA Decision To Reverse The Chlorpyrifos Ban

Social

@EmilyAtkin: "Scott Pruitt is touring conservative media outlets claiming Obama's EPA didn't accomplish anything. This is...false"

@Bruneski: "Don't agonize, organize! How Rollbacks at Scott Pruitt's E.P.A. Are a Boon to Oil and Gas [nyti.ms/2qF7RrK](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/22/us/politics/scott-pruitt-environment.html)"

@RepHankJohnson: "The budget's [#TrumpCuts](#) at EPA will negatively impact: -the AIR we breathe -the WATER we drink -the CLIMATE we leave our kids"

@RepStefanik: "Sent a letter to the EPA expressing my concerns over the dismissal of members of

the Board of Scientific Counselors... It's critical that the EPA continues to use the highest quality research when making policy decisions."

@Heritage: "Conservatives should be excited about the new @EPA agenda. bit.ly/2qKfqyb"

@AGRutledge: "I have a duty on behalf of Arkansans to provide a list of regulations to the EPA that should be rolled back. [#arpx](https://www.arkansasag.gov/media-center/n...) | [arkansasag.gov/media-center/n...](https://www.arkansasag.gov/media-center/n...)"

@AGRutledge: "The EPA has a unique opportunity to evaluate its regulatory programs and identify what is working and not working. [arkansasag.gov/media-center/n...](https://www.arkansasag.gov/media-center/n...)"

Sample Print Alert:

Exclusive: Trump EPA Transition Chief Laments Slow Progress In Killing Green Rules

Reuters

By Valerie Volcovici

May 22, 2017

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-ebell-exclusive-idUSKBN18I196>

The man who led President Donald Trump's transition team for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Myron Ebell, told a conservative conference last month that the new administration is moving too slowly to unravel climate change regulations.

In closed-door remarks to members of the conservative Jefferson Institute in Virginia on April 18, a recording of which was obtained by Reuters, Ebell said Trump's administration had made a series of missteps, including delays in appointing key EPA officials, that could hamper efforts to cut red tape for industry.

"This is an impending disaster for the Trump administration," Ebell, a prominent climate change doubter, said in the recording provided to the Center for Media and Democracy and shared with Reuters.

Ebell was chosen by Trump's campaign to lead the EPA's transition until the Jan. 20 inauguration, a choice that had reinforced expectations Trump would follow through on promises to rescind Obama-era green rules and pull the United States out of a global pact to fight climate change.

Ebell had been seen as a candidate for the EPA administrator job, a post that ultimately went to former Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt.

Ebell no longer works at the agency but remains influential within a faction of the U.S. conservative movement with ties to the Trump administration. His criticism reflects a broader disappointment by some conservatives about Pruitt's focus and commitment to scrapping even more complex Obama-era regulations.

Since taking office, Trump and Pruitt have moved to unwind environmental regulations, including former President Barack Obama's Clean Power Plan to reduce carbon emissions from electricity generators.

But his administration has frustrated some conservatives by entertaining the idea of remaining in the Paris Climate Agreement, and hesitating to tackle the Obama-era "endangerment finding" that concludes carbon dioxide is a public health threat and underlies many U.S. regulations governing emissions. Lawyers have said challenging that scientific finding could be time consuming and legally complex.

Pruitt has said he does not want the United States to remain in the Paris agreement but he has not yet decided to tackle the endangerment finding. At least three conservative groups have filed petitions asking the EPA to overturn the finding.

"Paris and the endangerment finding are the two big outstanding issues. It's the first wave of things that are necessary to turn this country around, particularly in the heartland states," Ebell said at the conference.

Ebell cited the slow pace of key EPA appointments, including deputy administrator and various assistant administrators, a lack of experienced personnel at the White House, deep ideological divisions between the president's close advisers, and an "imperfect choice" of EPA administrator, as the main reasons Trump was not acting more aggressively on climate rules.

He said Trump strategists should have allowed his transition team to roll out the full de-regulatory agenda before Trump took office, instead of delaying. "The new president doesn't have long before inertia sets in," he said.

He also found fault in Trump's choice of Pruitt to run the EPA, saying the former state attorney is a "clever lawyer" but his "political ambition" may distract him from taking-on time-consuming efforts like challenging the endangerment finding.

A spokesman for Pruitt responded to Ebell's assertions, saying Pruitt had been implementing Trump's executive orders and had spearheaded "about two dozen regulatory reform actions" since taking up his position.

Ebell also faulted Trump for choosing advisers with broadly different political perspectives and backgrounds - something he said was triggering paralyzing debate, instead of action.

"He's got people on different sides and they are all fighting over who gets these jobs and nobody has the clout except the president to say, 'Hey fix this, let's get this done,'" Ebell said.

In a statement given to Reuters on Saturday, Ebell said he is still concerned about the White House log-jam in nominating people for key EPA posts and the delay in making the Paris decision.

But he said he supports Pruitt as an administrator and is encouraged by his recent actions.

"Pruitt was an excellent choice to head the EPA, and minor disagreements aside, his recent actions have made me even more confident that he will be an outstanding administrator," he said.

A White House official did not respond to a request for comment.

Sample TV Alert

Administrator Pruitt Discusses Plans And Leadership For The Environmental Protection Agency

Fox & Friends

May 17, 2017

<http://mms.tveyes.com/transcript.asp?StationID=130&DateTime=5/17/2017%206:47:40%20AM&playclip=true>

Steve: Good morning to you.

Administrator Pruitt: Good morning. Good to be back with you.

Steve: the press made President Obama out to be the environmental savior. And yet, when you look at the number of toxic dumps left on your plate, it's a big number.

Administrator Pruitt: Absolutely. in fact, Ainsley, you said these fights across the country have some of the uranium and lead, posing great risk to the citizens in those areas. And examples where the E.P.A. didn't take any steps at all. We have a site outside of St. Louis called Westlake that's taken the E.P.A. 27 years just to make a decision. Not clean it up, but to make a decision on what should be done to clean it up.

Steve: That crosses both Democrat and Republican administrations.

Administrator Pruitt: Absolutely, and I think when you look at the environmental left they look at the past administration as an environmental savior. When you look at areas of contaminant in this country that don't meet the air quality standards, almost 40% of the country that qualify there. 120 million people. We had Gold King in Colorado. Flint in Michigan with water. The super fund sites across the country. the area that they focused on, the CO2 reductions they struck out twice on as far as regulations. The supreme court struck them down twice.

Ainsley: What does this mean for the folks that are watching this? Does this mean can you get cancer if you are exposed to all of this?

Administrator Pruitt: Possibly, yes. And that's why it's so important to focus the core of the mission on those areas. This president is a doer, an action oriented leader. the past administration talked a lot. this administration is actually taking steps to do things to clean up the environment. We're focusing on those areas you mentioned.

Brian: super fund sites that need to be cleaned up. What's your first target?

Administrator Pruitt: We are very focused on Westlake. I was in East Chicago about three weeks ago. a site that has lead as well.

Brian: do you know how to do it?

Administrator Pruitt: We have a plan in place that we're going to announce very soon on Westlake. So it's very important to make those citizens know we are going to take steps to clean up and clean it up quickly.

Ainsley: Mr. Pruitt, we are talking about memos and what's happening in the white house. this is what the American public really needs to be focused on

Steve: our personal safety.

Ainsley: protecting our kids from cancer.

Administrator Pruitt: They want leadership. and this president is providing leadership it in so many areas, and it gets lost in Washington, D.C. malaise in all these areas.

Steve: provide leadership to do what with the environment."

Administrator Pruitt: Clean up these sites. set a goal and say 1322 sites unacceptable. 27 years to make a decision is unacceptable. Let's get St. Louis cleaned up.

Steve: how much is it going to cost?

Administrator Pruitt: The great thing about this is we have private funding. There are people out there responsible for these sites to clean up. There is money out there to do so. it's not a matter of money. it's a matter of leadership and attitude and management. we need to do it much better.

brian: when are you going to make a decision on leaving and staying in paris, the paris agreement.

Administrator Pruitt: I think when the president gets back from the G7. I'm actually attending the G7 in early June as well and there will be a decision on Paris. Very important we make decisions there soon.

Brian: it will be one of the big top topics.

Brian: Great to see you.